

Alta California Regional Center
Client Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
Minutes

Present:

Amy Lampe, Chair
Tom Hopkins, Design. Dir.
Lisa Cooley
Tiffany Johnson
Jacie Oakley
Amanda Parker
Steven Sanchez
Kimberly Terrell

Facilitators:

Amy Fulk
Naomi Smith

Visitors:

Marc Lever
Robert Levy
Ruben Medina
Ashley Robertson
Joseph Wilson

Absent: (* excused)

Patty Wallace*
Karen Young*

Staff:

Lori Banales, Executive Director
Jennifer Bloom, Director of Client Services
John Decker, Director of Community Services
Camelia Houston, Director of Intake & Clinical Services
Mechelle Johnson, Director of Client Services
Reyva Johnson, Client Advocate
David Lopez, Client Advocate
Jacob Miller, Client Advocate
Lisa West, Executive Secretary

The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) met on Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. to discuss: 1) Message from Lori; 2) Strategic Thinking; 3) Updates; and 4) Public Comments/Announcements. All present provided self-introductions.

Without objection, Amy Lampe made the motion to adopt the CAC meeting minutes of November 4, 2025, as submitted.

1. ***Message from Lori***



- Lori is currently attending the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) Finance Committee Meeting and will be joining us shortly.
- John shared that the Governor released the state's proposed budget last week for the 2026-27 fiscal year (FY). Between now and the budget being signed into law in June, the state will hold hearings and rallies at the State Capitol.
 - The developmental services system has an increase of \$2.4 billion for an increased caseload of 18% for a total budget of \$21.1 billion, serving 526,848 individuals statewide.
 - The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) will continue with their investment in the Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS), the implementation of the federal Home and Community-Based

Services (HCBS) Access Rule, and their efforts to increase access to employment.

- Alta's January newsletter has been posted to our agency's website, and we continue to use our social media platforms to promote events throughout our catchment area.
- Last week, Lori and John attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the River Grove Apartments with Yolo County Housing. This development will have 18 set aside units for Alta clients.
- The "Fight for Our Health Coalition Rally, Press Conference and Lobby Day" is scheduled for tomorrow, January 14th, on the West Steps of the State Capitol. The rally begins at 9:30 a.m.
- The 30th California Statewide Self-Advocacy Conference is scheduled for May 8th & 9th, in Sacramento. Registration will be open soon. The conference sessions will provide an opportunity to network. The Supported Life Institute (SLI) is seeking presenters, as well.

2. **Strategic Thinking**

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- Alta is seeking input from this committee on Strategic Thinking because your perspective is valuable.
 - Jacob reviewed what the CAC is and what being a CAC member means.
 - Strategic thinking is the ability to look beyond day-to-day tasks and make decisions with the long-term mission, risks, and opportunities in mind. It focuses on *where you're going, why, and how today's choices shape future outcomes*.
 - Alta continues to have four focus areas:
 - Client and Family Supports
 - Employment
 - Housing and Living Options
 - Community Inclusion and Engagement
 - CAC members should communicate, work together, keep an open mind, make sure things are documented, listen to others and be inclusive.
 - Suggestions include:
 - Go to local news stations to share information about the regional center.
 - Work to change the client to direct support professional (DSP) ratio for needed services.
 - Create a training session for regional center clients to be advocates for accessible housing.
 - Lori expressed appreciation for Jacob's presentation. Over the past several years, this group has attached itself to several initiatives that are important to our community. She encourages everyone to think about how they want to spend their time and create a platform for this year's work. We want to create activities that drive good outcomes.

- Please make a commitment to bring to the February CAC meeting one idea for each focus area so we can start to generate a plan.

3. **Updates**

◆ PAN

- The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 26th, from 4:30 to 5 p.m.

◆ Alta Board

- The group met on November 20th.
 - Alta held two public meetings – the 2024 Performance Contract End of Year Report and the National Core Indicators (NCI) Data.
 - The Board approved their 2026 Board Training Plan, the financial report and three housing contracts, each with set aside units for Alta clients.

◆ ARCA-CAC

- The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 23rd, from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

4. **Public Comments/Announcement**

- Tom and Robert will be sharing their self-advocacy stories on February 12th in Placerville. Robert will also be presenting on January 29th and February 20th at the MIND Institute.

The next CAC meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 10, 2026**. The meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: ACRC Board of Directors
Lori Banales